

France and West Germany sign new accord

PARIS (AP) — Chancellor Helmut Kohl and President Francois Mitterrand signed accords Friday to create a joint French-West Germany army brigade and to coordinate the defence and economic policies of the two former enemies. The new step, in cooperation between France and Germany, who fought each other in three wars over 100 years, was the centrepiece of the celebration of the 25th anniversary of the French-West German Friendship Treaty of 1963. West German Defence Minister Manfred Woerner, interviewed on French Television, said the joint brigade to be established under the defence accord was a step toward a merged army. "I see the possibility that one day there would be a common army," Woerner said. French Defence Minister Andre Giraud, interviewed at the same time, said he agreed, and added, "The first step is the hardest." Jean-Pierre Scaglia, a 52-year-old French officer who speaks German, is to be the first commander of the joint brigade. The full text of the economic accord is to be made public next week.

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Turkey condemns Israel

ANKARA (R) — Turkey summoned Israel's chargé d'affaires Friday to condemn his country's actions against Palestinians in the occupied territories, the Foreign Ministry said. Foreign Minister Under-Secretary Nuzhet Kandemir told Yehuda Millo of Ankara's concern about Israel's measures against Palestinians in the West Bank and Gaza, a ministry statement said. The statement said Kandemir urged Israel "to put an end to the arbitrary activities which infringed the basic rights of the Palestinians and to shoulder its obligations under international conventions."

Anti-Israeli protests in Cape Town

CAPE TOWN (R) — Ten people appeared in court Friday after they demonstrated outside the Israeli embassy in Cape Town against Israel's handling of Palestinian protests in the occupied territories. The 10, said to be members of an Islamic organisation, were not charged and were released on bail pending a court hearing on Feb. 17.

Genscher urges Reagan to seek deeper cuts in weapons

WASHINGTON (R) — West German Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher has urged President Ronald Reagan to press for deeper cuts in East-West nuclear arsenals and a global ban on chemical weapons. "This was a very good and very successful visit," Genscher told reporters after meeting Reagan Thursday. Genscher also urged the Senate to act swiftly to ratify the recently-signed Intermediate Nuclear Forces (INF) treaty eliminating intermediate-range nuclear missiles from the U.S. and Soviet stockpiles.

British parliament bans late abortions

LONDON (AP) — The British parliament by a narrow margin gave preliminary approval Friday to a proposed law banning abortions after 18 weeks of pregnancy. The measure reducing the abortion time limit from 28 weeks to 18 weeks was approved by a 296-251 vote on "second reading," a crucial parliamentary stage at which bills are fully debated and put to a vote in the House of Commons.

U.S. court nullifies special prosecutor law

WASHINGTON (R) — A U.S. court of appeals struck down Friday the Watergate-inspired special prosecutor law authorising independent investigations into alleged wrongdoing by top government officials. While the historic ruling will presumably affect such current cases as the perjury conviction of former White House aide Michael Deaver, it will apparently not stop investigation of the Iran-contra scandal or the financial affairs of Attorney General Edwin Meese because the prosecutors in those cases have separate federal authority. The court, in a 2-1 decision, declared unconstitutional a key part of the ten-year-old ethics in government law passed by Congress after the Watergate scandal that drove Richard Nixon from presidency in August 1974.

INSIDE

- Study shows water may trigger Mideast upheaval, page 2
- Parliament panels discuss Palestinian uprising, page 3
- Israelis feel loss of Arab labour, page 4
- Jordan's mosaics — looking through coloured cubes, page 5
- Finn wins Paris-Dakar Rally, page 6
- IMF to modify financing deals, page 7
- Reagan lowers bid for contra aid, page 8

Israel's show of force, beatings fail to blunt Arab resistance

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (Agencies) — Palestinians kept up anti-occupation protests and demonstrations Friday despite a new policy adopted by the Israeli army of using excessive force to cause grievous injuries to Arab protesters.

At the Haram Al Sharif complex in Jerusalem, Muslims chanted anti-Israeli slogans and brandished Palestinian flags outside the Al Aqsa Mosque but there was no repetition of last Friday's violence which followed a storming of Islam's third holiest shrine by Israeli soldiers.

Israeli forces mounted a massive show of force around Haram Al Sharif and made at least four arrests, according to reports.

In the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip, protests were reported near mosques after Friday prayers. Demonstrators blocked roads with burning tyres and makeshift barricades.

Troops fired tear-gas to break up protests in the West Bank

(Continued on page 3)

Solidarity strike paralyses Lebanon

BEIRUT (Agencies) — Strikers shut down much of Lebanon Friday to show solidarity with the Palestinian uprising in the Israeli-occupied territories.

Banks, shops, financial markets and most other businesses stayed shut, and schools were also closed during the one-day strike. Traffic on the rain-soaked streets was light and most people stayed indoors.

Revolutionary anti-Israeli songs blared from local radio stations between news bulletins.

The stoppage was observed in northern and southern areas as well as the Bekaa Valley, while east Beirut and surrounding areas were unaffected.

The protest was called by Lebanon's Sunni grand mufti, Sheikh Hassan Khaled, and the vice-president of the higher Shi'ite Islamic Council, Sheikh Mohammad Mehdi Shamseddin.

"The Israeli aggression against the Palestinian people is an aggression against all the Arab and Muslim people," a statement by the clerics said.

"In the name of the Lebanese we call on the Arab states to consider Friday a day of strike to support our people in Palestine," the statement added.

In east Beirut the Lebanese front, a coalition of mostly Christian right-wing parties, decided to ignore the call.

Beirut airport, bakeries and newspapers remained open. They were declared exempt by the callers of the strike.

About 50 Palestinian women staged a sit-in a west Beirut centre of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA).

They walked through the streets from west Beirut's Shatila refugee camp on the city's southern flank to the seaside UNRWA centre in Ain Merissa, chanting "long live our Palestine heroes."

Freedom of movement in and out of Shatila and the nearby Bourj Al Barajneh camp has been recovered by the Palestinians Wednesday, when Justice Minister Nabil Berri's Shi'ite Amal militia terminated a nearly three-year-old siege of the two shantytowns.

Bulldozers pulverised barricades around the camps in Beirut Thursday, erasing some of the scars of the siege.

"We're tired," said a 24-year-old Palestinian named Ghassan. "We want to live like normal people. We're not asking much... just for peace."

Haggard, exhausted refugees stared disbeliefing at the yellow machines flattening and shoveling the debris of war.

(Continued on page 3)

Mubarak to propose moratorium on violence and Israeli settlement

CAIRO (Agencies) — A six-month halt to violence between Israelis and Palestinians in the Israeli-occupied West Bank and Gaza is the centrepiece of new peace proposals by Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak, Egyptian officials said Friday.

They said Mubarak would discuss his ideas next week with President Ronald Reagan in Washington.

An official spokesman said Mubarak planned no further public announcements on his peace initiative before leaving Cairo Monday for Bonn and London on his way to Washington.

Likud leader urges Ararat for moratorium

A Likud member of the Israeli Knesset was quoted Thursday as calling on Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Chairman Yasser Arafat to recognise pre-1967 Israel and declare a six-month truce in the warfare against the Jewish state to pave the way for Arab-Israeli peace.

In an interview with the London-based newsletter Mideast Mirror, Moshe Amirav said that if Arafat took these steps, he would "score a resounding victory, a victory for both nations" and clinch the right to a "Palestinian entity" on the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

Saying he expected to be thrown out of his party next week, Amirav said more and more people in the hardline Likud party, which is headed by

Shamir, were joining him in believing that Israel's problem is with the Palestinians and "we have to sit with them" to solve it.

The officials said the president would discuss his proposals and other Middle East peace ideas with Reagan during their first meeting since September 1985.

An official spokesman said Mubarak planned no further public announcements on his peace initiative before leaving Cairo Monday for Bonn and London on his way to Washington.

In a letter to Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar, Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze referred to the "popular uprising" by Palestinians in the Israeli-occupied territories and said there was growing support for the idea of an international conference as the only realistic means of achieving a settlement of the Arab-Israeli conflict. The letter was released to the press on Thursday.

Shevardnadze said the Palestinian protests show the "dangerous nature of the delusions of those who try to keep at any cost the land of others" and who "refuse to look in a serious and business-like manner for means of unlocking the situation in the Middle East."

He continued: "We suggest that the members of the Security Council proceed to consultations to consider the relevant questions.

"The initiative in this matter, we believe, could belong to the permanent members of the council. Conclusions and recommendations arrived at during such consultations could be considered at a formal meeting of the council.

"In view of the particular importance of this question for the maintenance of international security, we propose that such a meeting should be held at the foreign minister level."

The Soviet minister said he hoped Perez de Cuellar would use the means at his disposal and his personal authority to contribute effectively to a "general agreement on immediate practical steps for the convening of an international conference on the Middle East."

Shevardnadze, whose country has pressed for such a conference for several years, said support for the idea was clearly reflected during the most recent session of the General Assembly.

It was particularly urgent now to transform the political will of states reflected in the assembly decisions into "specific and practical steps to solve the hard-core problems of the Middle East," he said.

Arab foreign ministers are expected to meet in Tunis Saturday to discuss the Palestinian uprising. An informed source told the Jordan Times in the Tunisian capital that the PLO had drafted a working paper to be submitted to the meeting calling for a United Nations force to be sent to the occupied territories to protect the Palestinians there pending a solution to the problem.

OIC gives \$11m to PLO

The Organisation of Islamic Conference (OIC) has given the PLO \$11 million to support the uprising in the occupied territories, the Saudi Press Agency said Thursday.

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Shevardnadze wrote in his letter to the Security Council, as the primary U.N. body responsible for maintaining peace, should be "immediately involved in the practical process of setting up and putting in motion the mechanism of the inter-state conference on the Middle East, which should be designed to find, on the basis of multilateral efforts, a reasonable balance among the interests of all the parties and to ensure lasting peace and security in the region."

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200 Arabs suffer fractured limbs in 3 days

Israeli troops accused of brutality against protesters

TEL AVIV (R) — U.N. relief workers and Israeli newspapers accused the Israeli army Friday of brutality in enforcing a new policy, criticised by the United States, of beating protesters in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip.

U.N. clinic and government hospital records show more than 200 Palestinians suffered fractured limbs in the three days since Defense Minister Yitzhak Rabin declared the army would use "might, power and beatings" to crush unrest.

In some areas, soldiers entered Arab homes and beat whole families, witnesses said. Troops clubbed many people not involved in demonstrations, as well as publicly beating suspects under arrest for curfew violations.

Asked about the beatings, Police Minister Haim Bar Lev told reporters Friday: "It is to my mind an unfortunate term. When the police or the military have to exert reasonable force, they do it."

Asked if this included breaking people's bones, he replied: "It is not defined in orthopaedic terms."

The Jerusalem Post quoted a senior military source as saying the policy was aimed at "striking fear of the army" into increasingly defiant Palestinian demonstrators.

"The reins of discipline have been loosened to restore IDF (Israeli army) deterrence," he was quoted as saying. The source conceded there had been instances of "irregularities" in enforcing the policy.

Rabin defended the new policy this week by saying it was better to beat protesters than to shoot them.

Israeli troops have shot dead 39 Palestinians and wounded more than 300 by gunfire since the uprising began on Dec. 9.

The independent daily Haaretz said 197 people had treated for fractures as a result of beatings in the Gaza Strip alone in the last

two days.

Haaretz's veteran military correspondent, Zeev Schiff, said soldiers, harried from opening fire, were showing "increasingly extreme opinions and feelings together with rage at the Arab population and a desire to disturb them."

In the West Bank, a Renter correspondent saw dozens of Arabs severely beaten by troops in the Ramallah area, including many who were not involved in unrest.

Several of those beaten sustained multiple fractures and serious head wounds.

Old people beaten

The acting head of the U.N. Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees (UNRWA) in Gaza, Angela Williams, said an 85-year-old and a 75-year-old man were treated at UNRWA clinics in the Jahala refugee camp Thursday after being beaten on the head.

"We are deeply shocked by the evidence of the brutality with which people are evidently being beaten," Williams said. "We are especially shocked by the beatings of old men and women."

State Department spokesman Charles Redman said Thursday that the United States was "disturbed by the adoption of a policy by the government of Israel that calls for beatings as a means to restore or maintain order."

"We believe that Israel can carry out its responsibility to maintain order... through the use of humane measures which do not result in additional civilian casualties," he said.

A list of people injured in

Jahala Refugee Camp in the Gaza Strip Tuesday shows 12 members of a single family, aged between 10 and 54, were treated at a U.N. clinic for severe beatings.

In another case on the same day, six members of a family in another part of the camp required treatment for injuries to the head, arms, chest and legs.

In Gaza's Al Ahli Hospital, a 50-year-old disabled man who breathes through a tube inserted through his windpipe after a throat cancer operation has been unconscious for two days with multiple fractures and wounds after being beaten in Jahala.

Army confiscates ID cards

As part of its crackdown on Palestinian rebellion, the army has been confiscating identity cards Arabs need to move about the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

The 1.5 million residents of the occupied territories must carry the Israeli-issued ID cards to go almost anywhere and to deal with government agencies.

For example, if a Palestinian is stopped at one of the many army roadblocks and doesn't carry the card, he is subject to immediate arrest on the spot.

In one widespread practice, soldiers stop motorists and passers-by, take their papers and order them to remove stones and burning tires left behind by demonstrators if they comply, the cards are returned.

Army patrols also stop Palestinians in the streets and ask to see identification, said Elias Kanaan, editor of the Arab-run Palestine Press Service. "If it's not the man's lucky day, they will confiscate his papers," he said.

Traders caught between army and protesters

Palestinian shopkeepers are caught between calls for protest strikes against Israeli rule and

troops who, they say, often damage their shops when they force them to open.

"If you don't open voluntarily, they either force you open or weld you shut," one merchant said.

Traders have observed intermittent strikes since the anti-Israel uprising broke out.

Many shops in the West Bank town of Ramallah bear extensive signs of damage which their owners say was caused by troops with heavy boltcutters tearing locks from their doors.

Those who ignore the strike call risk retaliation from their own community.

A money-changer's store in Arab East Jerusalem was burned earlier this week and a car belonging to a local shopkeeper was torched during the night. Security sources said both attacks were to be retribution for strikebreakers.

"Nowhere is the need for stability felt more acutely than in the Middle East. The tragic events we have witnessed in the West Bank and Gaza remind us all of the need for renewed urgency in the search for a solution..." he said.

Reagan's message responded to the press statement the king made at a meeting of the Organisation of Islamic Conference's (OIC) Jerusalem Committee on Jan. 5 devoted to the protests in the Israeli-occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip.

In his message, released to the press by the Interior and Information Ministry, Reagan said the principles of liberty and human dignity "continue to guide our search for peace and stability."

"The soldiers can make us open but they can't make us sell," a merchant told Reuters.

The stoppage is hitting shopkeepers' pockets hard.

No one is prepared to estimate the volume of lost trade but Jerusalem's Israeli mayor Teddy Kolek has warned strikers not to expect any reduction in their city taxes.

The Ramallah shopkeeper said he and his neighbours could survive for as long as the strikes last.

"We have learned to live on very little," he said.

Reagan says Palestinians must take part in talks

RABAT (R) — Palestinians should participate in every stage of the negotiating process on the occupied territories, President Ronald Reagan has said in a message to Morocco's King Hassan.

"The U.S. has made clear its belief that the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people must be addressed in any agreement on the final status of the occupied territories, and that there should be Palestinian participation at every stage of the negotiating process," Reagan said.

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"Nowhere is the need for stability felt more acutely than in the Middle East. The tragic events we have witnessed in the West Bank and Gaza remind us all of the need for renewed urgency in the search for a solution..." he said.

Reagan said the U.S. had urged calm and restraint, calling on both sides to redouble efforts to avoid confrontation.

"Realism is needed on all sides, and all sides must be willing to take practical, not just rhetorical, positions that make progress more likely," he added.

"The U.S. will continue to work for a solution, urging and encouraging activities which will enable voices of reason and moderation on all sides to prevail. This is vital if the essential work of peace is to go forward," he concluded.

An official Moroccan source said Reagan's message and the king's remarks would be communicated to the U.N. secretary-general, the OIC, and the Arab foreign ministers who are due to hold an emergency meeting in Tunis this week to discuss the disturbances on the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

Former U.S. National Security Adviser Robert McFarlane called Thursday for the creation of an international fund for social and economic projects in the Middle East which could help end unrest in the Israeli-occupied territories.

McFarlane told a forum, held to discuss the political and energy implications of the Middle East crisis, that wealthy Western nations and Japan should cooperate to raise around \$50 billion.

The money, to be collected and disbursed over a period of five to 10 years, would be used for job creation, health care and educational projects in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip as well as other areas of tension.

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ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Friday's

Al Ra'i: Jordan's support for uprising

AT the joint session of Parliament's foreign and occupied territories affairs, the prime minister reviewed the events in the occupied Arab territories and the uprising against the Israeli repression. Mr. Rifai informed the committee about the government's measures in support of the Arab people under Israeli rule and the outcome of King Hussein's contacts with world leaders to find a way to end the sufferings of the Palestinians and to ensure relief supplies to the refugees in their camps. The meeting has underlined the government's responsibility and also reaffirmed Jordan's national commitment towards our brothers in the occupied Arab land. The commitment represents a show of solidarity with the Arab inhabitants with whom Jordan maintains strong ties and carries on the struggle with them for a just solution for their problems. Jordan's stand reflects the unity of struggle and cohesion with the Arab people on the West Bank and the Gaza Strip in the face of Israel's repression, designed to open the way for lasting settlement and a permanent peace in our area. Jordan will remain committed to supporting the rights of the Palestinian people in their struggle to regain their rights and their land, and will continue to enhance their steadfastness in the face of all threats and challenges.

Al Dustour: Timely support

THE joint session of Parliament's foreign and occupied territories affairs committee heard the government's views about the current uprising in the occupied Arab territories and Jordan's consultations and contacts with world leaders. The prime minister who addressed the session presented a briefing on the government's measures for supporting the steadfastness of the Arab population under Israel's rule and also re-emphasised the Kingdom's continued efforts to establish peace in the region based on justice. This national commitment and support for our brothers comes at a crucial time when all efforts should be made and all ways explored for alleviating the sufferings of the Palestinians. King Hussein has been a staunch supporter of the Palestinian people's cause and his envoys have been delivering messages worldwide, in pursuit of efforts for ending the occupation of Arab land and ensuring the legitimate rights of the Palestinians in their own homeland. The King's contacts highlighted the need of an international conference which is the only means of ending the Arab-Israeli conflict and ensuring a durable peace in our region. The King has presented the Arab case to the world and has been exerting all efforts for the achievement of peace. We call on all peace-loving nations and all Arabs to extend a helping hand and help establish the aspired peace.

Sawt Al Shab: Rifai briefs Parliament

JORDAN'S moves to ensure relief supplies to the Arab people under Israeli rule is part of an all out endeavour by the Kingdom to alleviate the sufferings of the Palestinians and a show of solidarity with the repressed people in their camps, towns and villages in the occupied territory. We are facing a ferocious enemy, trying with all its might to settle on our land employing an iron fist policy to consolidate occupation and deprive the Palestinians of their legitimate rights and homeland. Jordan has been striving to help the Palestinians achieve their goal and attain their aspired peace based on justice. The prime minister's statement to a joint session of Parliament's foreign and occupied territories affairs committee contained a briefing on Jordan's stand and the country's efforts towards this end. Jordan, he said, will continue to carry on with its policy, supporting the Palestinians and also seeking the convening of an international conference for the establishment of permanent peace. The deputies who spoke at the joint session voiced the Jordanian people's total support for the King's efforts and the government's efforts in supporting the uprising of the Palestinians and seeking a just and permanent peace.

Thursday's

Al Ra'i: Uprising persists

AS the uprising against Israel has been escalating all the time, reports by foreign media clearly indicate that the Arab people are resolute and determined to carry on their struggle to achieve their rights and their objectives. At the same time Israel's information media have been maintaining a counter propaganda campaign and trying to deceive the world public opinion about the truth and the facts inside the occupied lands. What is more, the Israeli media have been trying to present the current revolt as a mere disturbance that would soon be put down and should not acquire worldwide attention. But we are certain that the Israelis will not succeed in their attempts to belittle the uprising of our people in the occupied territory and will not be able to mislead world public opinion about the facts that speak for themselves. Needless to say, that the current uprising has caused divisions within the Israeli ranks and will continue to gain more world support for the Palestinian cause. The uprising is clearly disturbing the occupation authorities and it is hoped that the world community and the United Nations will now make urgent moves for the establishment of peace and end the Arab-Israeli conflict on the basis of U.N. resolutions.

Al Dustour: Following on summit resolutions

THE prime minister visited Damascus on Wednesday in the course of the on-going consultations between Jordan and Syria on matters of concern to the whole Arab Nation. The visit and the talks with Syrian leaders are regarded as a follow up to the successful outcome of the Arab summit meeting held in Amman last November, and is aimed at rallying Arab ranks and consolidating solidarity among Arab states in the face of the current serious developments in the region. What the Arabs are facing now requires constant consultations, and the serious uprising and the Israeli repressive measures warrant constant efforts on the part of Arab states. The uprising was at the heart of the talks held in Damascus because Amman and Damascus shoulder heavy responsibility towards the Palestinian Arabs and continue to exert all possible efforts to end their sufferings. Jordan is clearly pursuing efforts at all levels to strengthen solidarity among the Arabs and to end all obstacles that can impede a pan-Arab action in the face of the conspiracies hatched by the nation's enemies.

Israeli employers feel loss of Arab Labour

By Dan Izenberg
The Associated Press

YAVNE, Israel — A 20-year Israeli policy employing Palestinians has been threatened by six weeks of protests in the occupied territories in which up to half the workers have failed to show up at their jobs.

Government officials have played down the impact on the economy, but Israeli employers warn they will have to bring more labourers from abroad if the uprising continues.

About 105,000 Palestinians from the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip work in Israel, most concentrated in low-skilled and low-paying jobs.

They work as waiters, mechanics, furniture makers, construction labourers, hospital orderlies, itinerant fruit pickers, cleaners, dishwashers and garbage collectors.

Many are found in so-called "slave markets" on the highway leading out of the Gaza Strip or near the old, walled city of Jerusalem where they wait, sometimes in vain, to be picked up by Jewish employers at the day's arbitrary rate.

The past six weeks of unrest has forced many to stay home.

The problem is especially acute in the Gaza Strip where teenaged Palestinians have blocked roads and stoned vehicles carrying workers to Israel. The

youths accuse the adults of collaborating with Israel by working for Jewish employers.

For its part, the army has imposed curfews on more than a dozen refugee camps and ordered all residents to stay indoors to suppress the disturbances.

The result is that on some days more than 50,000 Palestinians are about 3 per cent of the Israeli labour force — have failed to come to work.

For many reasons, Palestinian labour is a sensitive issue and officials are reluctant to admit that the labour loss is causing difficulties for Israel's economy, including the crucial export sector.

One example is the 10-week citrus harvest which began two weeks ago and is one of Israel's largest agricultural exports.

The harvest employs 15,000 fruit pickers, half of them Palestinians, according to Avner Miebel, spokesman for the government employment service.

To meet the crisis, Labour Minister Moshe Katzav granted work permits to 550 more residents of Israeli-controlled South Lebanon. About 1,250 Lebanese already work in Israel.

At the same time Education Minister Yitzhak Navon sent 10,000 students to the orchards.

"We won't leave a single fruit on the tree just because of the Arab workers," said Michael, who added that demobilized soldiers and civil service volunteers

would also be brought in if necessary.

It is easy to tap national sentiment for the citrus harvest. Agriculture and the return to the land were key elements of the Zionist revival.

The same is not true for other hard-hit sectors of the economy, and Israeli businessmen are seeking less sentimental solutions.

Kohy Rogobin, owner of a Tel Aviv construction company, said he wanted to import 40 Portuguese workers to take over scaffolding, plastering and floor-laying jobs from absent Palestinians.

"The Arabs don't come regularly and you can't run a business this way," Rogobin said.

Israel already employs 10,000 workers from such countries as Portugal, Ghana, the Philippines and Taiwan. Only one-quarter of them have work permits.

Chain Kaminetz, manager of a textile factory in Yavne 40 miles southwest of Jerusalem, said he would seek more foreign workers if the unrest continued.

The 900-man factory employs 150 Palestinians from the Gaza Strip. Many stayed away during the uprising and production dropped, although Kaminetz declined to provide figures.

Kaminetz said he did not blame his workers. "They tried to come. Some of them made superhuman efforts, walking or hitchhiking to get here."

On the political right warn that Israel is too dependent on Palestinian workers who are hostile to the Jewish state.

Others, mainly on Israel's left, raise the moral implications of using Palestinians for *avoda zara*, or dirty work, that most Jews consider demeaning.

Issa Amro, 22, from Dura in the occupied West Bank, said he grossed about \$600 working 20 hours a day at two jobs in Jewish West Jerusalem.

Amro, who has both police and army permits to remain in Israel overnight, guards an office and commercial building at night and works as an orderly in a mental hospital in the daytime.

He said he worked in Jerusalem because he could find no jobs in his village.

Palestinian uprising: Occupation has its price

By Anthony Lewis

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM — Palestinian protests over the last seven weeks have brought about at least one profound change in Israeli thinking. People no longer believe that it will be easy to go on occupying the West Bank and Gaza.

"Everyone has come face to face with the reality," an Israeli specialist on Arab affairs, Clinton Bailey, said. "You have a population out there that you really cannot control, or not without very great difficulty."

That is a basic change in perception. Until recently, as one person put it, "everyone said the occupation will just go on, the Arabs are contented enough. Now people know the status quo does not work."

Why? To start with, the military realities have changed. The Israeli army is no longer dealing with isolated incidents that a few soldiers could handle with a few shots in the air. It has on its bands what just about everyone now agrees is a genuine popular uprising.

The changed nature of the conflict has psychological consequences, too, for the army and the Israeli public. This cannot be justified as a war on terrorism. Young boys who throw stones at soldiers are not terrorists. The 40 Palestinians killed over these

weeks, one of them 10 years old, cannot be explained so easily.

"It is a situation of our 20-year-olds battling their 20-year-olds."

Hirsch Goodman, the Jerusalem Post's military correspondent, wrote — "ours using armour, helicopters and guns; theirs, clubs, rocks and primitive Molotov cocktails."

Nor is it possible for any serious person to believe any longer that Palestinians are "contented" under occupation. To call the occupation "benign" was always wishful. The uprising against it makes manifest the real feelings of the occupied.

Rage is felt not only by young people crowded into the refugee camps of Gaza. Middle-class Palestinians in the West Bank are angry, too. Raja Shebae, a well-known lawyer, speaks of feeling constantly "humiliated" by the occupation rules and bureaucrats, and by the "colonisation" of the land. In the middle of the current protests Israel's housing minister dedicated a new Jewish settlement in the West Bank.

If most Israelis understand now that continued occupation will be costly, the crucial question follows: Are they prepared to give up the occupied territories? And there the picture is not so clear.

The immediate effect of the Palestinian protests has been to harden the hawkish tone of Israeli politics. Officials make hard-line statements about suppressing and uprising, and most of the public seems to approve. But suppose Israelis find that the cost of suppression is high and unending. Suppose they find that they have to pay with their own values of democracy and human rights. What then?

Meron Benvenisti, the leading expert on the West Bank and Gaza, argues that rational judgments about the cost of the occupation will be overwhelmed by the emotions of a nationalism, in Israel as in other divided societies. "It will be said that you need the territories for survival," he says, "and then no cost is too much."

On the other side Yaron Ezrahi, professor of political science at the Hebrew University, says "the cost of suppression may exceed the point of tolerance in Israeli society." For that reason he questions the notion that protesters can be starved into submission by sealing refugee camps or by keeping Palestinians from jobs in Israel.

"Dehumanisation is easy when Palestinians are terrorists," Professor Ezrahi says. "but not when they're starving."

A debate is shaping up that cuts into the deepest Israeli sensitivities — and across party lines. The Mayor of Tel Aviv, Shlomo Lahat, a member of the right-wing Likud Party, has just come out for giving up the West Bank and Gaza as liabilities.

Still ahead is the bard question of how withdrawal would be negotiated. The protests show more clearly than ever that Israel cannot deal with Jordan alone — that it must take account of the reality of Palestinian nationalism. That raises further Israeli doubts and fears. But now they, too, will be weighed against the perceived danger of continued occupation — The New York Times.

Is Sudan facing famine?

By Hamza Hendawi
Reuter

KHARTOUM — U.N. officials and relief workers say Sudan faces another devastating famine this year but the government calls the threat exaggerated.

Government officials say stocks of the staple millet and sorghum are enough to last Sudan's 23 million people through 1988, despite a disappointing 1987 harvest which brought in less than half the previous year's crop.

"If the need arises for food in one area, we shall just have to bring from elsewhere in Sudan," Agriculture Minister Omar Nour Al Dayem told a news conference.

He said reports of potential famine were caused by exaggerated figures for food requirements submitted to Khartoum by regional governments.

But Mohamad Kamel Shawki, the government's top relief executive, acknowledged lack of accurate information was making the assessment of food requirements difficult.

His agency, the Relief and Rehabilitation Commission (RRC), has asked donor countries to pay for more than 200,000 tonnes of food to meet shortfalls until the end of August.

Relief workers and United Nations officials said three million people could be starving in Sudan by October and charged that the authorities, keen to maintain a good image of their country abroad, were concealing the size of the problem.

They said drought and erratic rainfall had caused crop failures in the north west, the east and the south. Poor crops in the south were compounded by the civil war which has raged there since 1983, they said.

Some relief workers said food was already in such short supply

in parts of the country that the government should declare them disaster areas.

Sudan suffered a devastating drought in 1984-85, when famine in neighbouring Ethiopia brought the extent of the suffering home to the West.

Bumper harvests in 1985 and 1986 allowed Sudan to export sorghum again and build up a reserve of about 1.5 million tonnes, nearly half its annual consumption of cereals.

But the relief workers and U.N. officials said half the grain reserves were held by the private sector and the government would need to borrow extensively to buy it for distribution to the needy.

They said retail prices had already soared beyond what the average Sudanese peasant could afford. Merchants had begun hoarding grain in the hope of big profits later, they said.

"The issue is not the national food balance sheet," said Dole Dudge, director of the U.N. Children's Fund (UNICEF) in Sudan. "It is a question of household food security."

Another U.N. official said the government position that there would be no shortage this year was probably overoptimistic.

"By the last quarter of 1988 there would be no reserves left. This, in effect, means that if the 1988 harvest is poor then we may be facing a famine of proportions similar to the 1984-85 disaster."

Another problem is transporting grain from areas of surplus to places where it is needed, said Aziz Saleh, director of the U.N. Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) in Sudan.

"You need assistance to finance an organised transport system and you also need somebody to finance the purchase of food to give it to the needy," Saleh told Reuters.

4

One minute

Reprinted from Al Quds, International.

"A Tribute to Palestinian Martyrs During the days of uprising in Occupied Palestine"

"One minute" ... and all the Arab World stood pensive, thoughtful and still. While Palestinian seeds of growth sprang forth with determination and will.

Hurling with force stones of astounding range and strength, in glorious endeavour to awake the passive world at length. Stones, now stronger than any other weapons of any sort.

Thrown by hands that will one day rule and be wise; For what is life if the child is oppressed and enslaved? And Liberty is not free nor deeply honoured and engraven.

Palestinian youth have dared to throw and stare with eyes that ready To the entire guilty world that this heroic generation continues to try.

While we, in freedom, drugged into complaisance only laugh and eat.

Dancing and celebrating into the night until each morn we greet; Yes! it's the sinful way of "Lie to bed, late to rise,

You must get wealthy even if you become useless and unwise."

But today, is just "one minute", a scenario of forty years and tears, Flashed the homelessness, torment, misery and erased the dreaded fears.

My son and daughter, my brother, my father and mother of my son,

When will you return victoriously and say proudly, "we have won?" Through my tears I can see the glory and valour of champions returned.

Outstretched, my arms embrace Palestine for which I have earnestly yearned,



Ducks and fish dove in the middle of the 6th century A.D., found at Khirbet Al Mukhayyat.

Looking through coloured cubes

Salameh B. Ne'matt reviews Boghos Darakjian's photographic interpretation of Jordan's mosaics.

AMMAN — Very few people in Jordan know much about the ancient Byzantine art of mosaics, its distinguished characteristics and the various cultures that influenced this art since the Roman days.

A Jordanian photographer, aware of the public's little knowledge of Jordan's treasury of mosaics, has developed a novel method to introduce mosaics to Jordanians and to shed some light on the less monumental, but perhaps as important, historical antiquities in the Kingdom.

For the past 2½ years, Boghos Darakjian had been taking hundreds of photographs of mosaics in the country as part of his work as head of the photography section at the Department of Antiquities. Throughout that period,

A 'secret' technique

His technique involves taking the photography negatives, blow them up and print them on specially-made 1.5 millimetre gelatin slides. This method, which allows Darakjian to maintain good quality colours at any required size, has been in use for only a few years.

Darakjian does not like to go into the details of his technique as

he worked on his own private project aimed to introduce, in his own way, a sample of mosaics in Jordan through a method he calls "lighted colour transparencies."

Fifty one of his transparencies are now on display at the Royal Cultural Centre in the first exhibition of its kind in Jordan.

The special boxes for Darakjian's 51 pieces were imported from Europe but "most of the work was done in Jordan," the photographer said. He pointed out that the cost of producing the same work abroad was triple the cost here in Jordan. All 51 works at the exhibition are for sale and the proceeds are to go to the benefit of Noor Al Hussein Foundation.

Mosaics as a subject, was chosen by Darakjian "because no one has touched on the subject seriously before."

According to the photographer, "very few people know how mosaics are done." Discussing the advantages of his technique, he said that transparencies

make a great difference for the photograph. The colours become more vivid "and they look much better than prints. The details are emphasised and better contrasted with light unlike photo-prints which are flat... here, you see each stone in the mosaic."

As for the disadvantages, Darakjian said his technique, which he fully financed, was very costly compared to prints and paintings.

Mosaics of history

Arda Friej Dergarabedian, the photographer's sister in law told the Jordan Times that the exhibition served to inform people that mosaics is not something limited to the mosaic map in Madaba. "Most people who came to the exhibition did not know much about mosaics and what they meant in the historical sense."

In order to take better photographs of mosaics, the photographer had to transport water tanks to the middle of the desert so as to wash the mosaics before taking photographs.

The works on display are in three different sizes: 70 x 100 cm; 50 x 70 cm; and 30 x 40 cm. They are for sale for JD 335; JD 235 and JD 140 respectively.

The exhibition is scheduled to end Sunday. Darakjian said it could be extended.

He says that some of the mosaics in the exhibition could not be seen by the public on the site. "Some of them had been unearthed, photographed then buried again for preservation purposes." He says Jordan could not afford to unearth all of its archaeological treasures.

Darakjian also published a booklet on the exhibition which is sold at the Royal Cultural Centre for JD 1. The booklet to which Hanan Kurdi of the Department of Antiquities contributed, provides background information on the displayed transparencies.

Visitors commenting on the exhibition said they were surprised to know that such mosaics existed in Jordan. They said that they always thought Madaba was the only place where mosaics are found in the Kingdom.

The map of Madaba is the best known mosaic in Jordan, and depicts Biblical localities mentioned in the old and new testaments. This famous mosaic is not only a map of the Byzantine period but also a theological representation of the history of salvation placed in its geographical context, with Jerusalem as the centre of the inhabited world extending to the Biblical sites of Palestine, Jordan, Egypt, Syria and Lebanon.

In an introductory note to the exhibition's catalogue, Director of the Department of Antiquities Adnan Hadidi said that mosaics are some of the main artistic and cultural products of the land of Jordan especially in the Byzantine era.

"Byzantium's cultural creation is the domed church with its sumptuously sheathed interior of marble and mosaic. Buildings such as the church of Elias, Mary and Soreq, and the church of St. John the Baptist in Jerash as well as the church of the Apostles and the church of Virgin Mary in Madaba with their polychrome revetments and their arrays of solemn mosaic figures may well claim to be some of the Byzantine artistic achievements par excellence."

"It gives me great satisfaction to have this opportunity to express my admiration for the organiser and owner of the exhibition, Mr. Boghos Darakjian, who in the midst of his busy schedule as photographer of the Department of Antiquities worked several extra hours during the last few months to prepare this splendid display."

During the summer of 1986, a new floor dated to 785 A.D. was unearthed in the town of Umm Er-Rasas ancient Kastron Mefaa, decorating the church of St. Stephen. The high quality of the

mosaic and the richness of its decoration make this church one of the most important archaeological monuments in Jordan, paralleled only by the Madaba map which was discovered in 1897.

The Madaba map

The major part of the mosaic, focuses on the double geographic frame depicting cities in the area. In the intercolumnar spaces are a double series of cities, to the north are the holy city of Jerusalem, Neapolis, Sebastis, Caesarea, Diopolis, Eleutheropolis, Askalon, and Gaza. To the south are seven cities of Jordan: Kastron Mefaa, followed by Philadelphia, Madaba, Esboua, Belemonta, Areopolis, and Charachmoba. Two more names of places, Limbou and Diblaton, were added in two panels along with portraits of the donors.

The inner frame of the carpet depicts the River Nile with fish, birds, and water flowers, along with boats and boys fishing and hunting. Also included are depictions of ten cities in the Nile delta.

The word mosaic is derived from the Greek word for Muses, the habitual companions of Apollo. Originally the Muses seem to have been deities of the springs; afterwards they became goddesses of memory, and then of inspiration. Thus the technique of mosaic has always been associated with the highest forms of artistic expression.

The small cubes used to form the patterns in the mosaics are called "tesserae" a word derived from Greek, meaning "four-sided." These tesserae are usually of an inorganic material, such as marble, glass, shell, stone, and gold. Mosaics, have been used to cover enormous areas of buildings, as walls, floors, vaults, cupolas, etc. Wall mosaics, are comparatively rare, since they readily suffer more destruction.

In Jordan, mosaics usually depicted every day life activities, pastoral and hunting themes, in addition to exploiting classical mythological topics, to convey the new Christian concepts.

Some of these representations have symbolic meanings for the Christians: In the peacock symbolising eternal life; the grape harvest signifying the change and production of nature; the fish identified with the name of Christ and the rite of baptism; and human faces personifying the four seasons of the rivers of paradise: Tigris, Euphrates, Gihon, and Pison. The figures were represented frontally and almost grotesque in their proportions and harsh realism took place of the Hellenistic world idealism.



Married with Children — Saturday at 8:30

JTV Channel 2 Preview

Sat. — Jan. 23, 1988

9:30 Executive Stress

Edgar has to fly to New York for the imminent announcement that he will be taking over the entire Frankland Corporation from his tyrannical father and that Donald Fairchild will replace him in the U.K. At least that was the plan until Edgar finds out that Caroline and Donald are married. Not only is the Fairchild's job at stake — so is Edgar's.

9:00 Sat. Variety Show

10:20 Feature Film

Blues Brothers

The story of two graduates of Chicago chased by the police everywhere. An armed girl also and a neo-Nazi party chase them, Helicopters, armed forces and tanks take part in the chase. Finally, they are returned to jail.

Starring Tuesday Weld, Robert Hooks, Jeremy Brett

Sun. — Jan. 24, 1988

8:30 Farrington of The F.O.

That Old Black Magic

Harriet's surprise visitor from London causes the major to dab in some dubious love potions supplied by Sanchez.

9:10 Doc. Omnibus

Hemingway

The Last Round

After publishing the novella "The Old Man and The Sea," he was awarded the Nobel Prize for Literature in 1954. But Hemingway's writing declined in his later years. His love-life was as turbulent and episodic as his sporting enthusiasms; he married four times.

10:20 Secret Army

Mon. — Jan. 25, 1988

8:30 Are You Being Served

9:10 Moonlighting

10:20 Feature Film

I Want to Go Home

Thomas and his wife were separated. He is the guardian of his children Tony and Mary. Their mother persuades them to secretly go away with her. The three of them adopt new names. The children rejoin their father, and their mother is allowed by court to visit their children after being admonished by a judge.

Tue. — Jan. 26, 1988

8:30 King Martin

To many people, Martin Luther King was a Messiah. But to the majority of white Americans, he was the most dangerous man in the U.S. A gifted leader, a powerful speaker and a determined advocate of non-violence, he was at the head of a movement dedicated to winning justice and equality for the oppressed blacks in the land of the free. Here is hitherto unrevealed material about his relationship with his followers, with two American presidents, with radical black leader Michael X, and with the aggressively racist FBI chief Edgar Hoover.

Fri. — Jan. 29, 1988

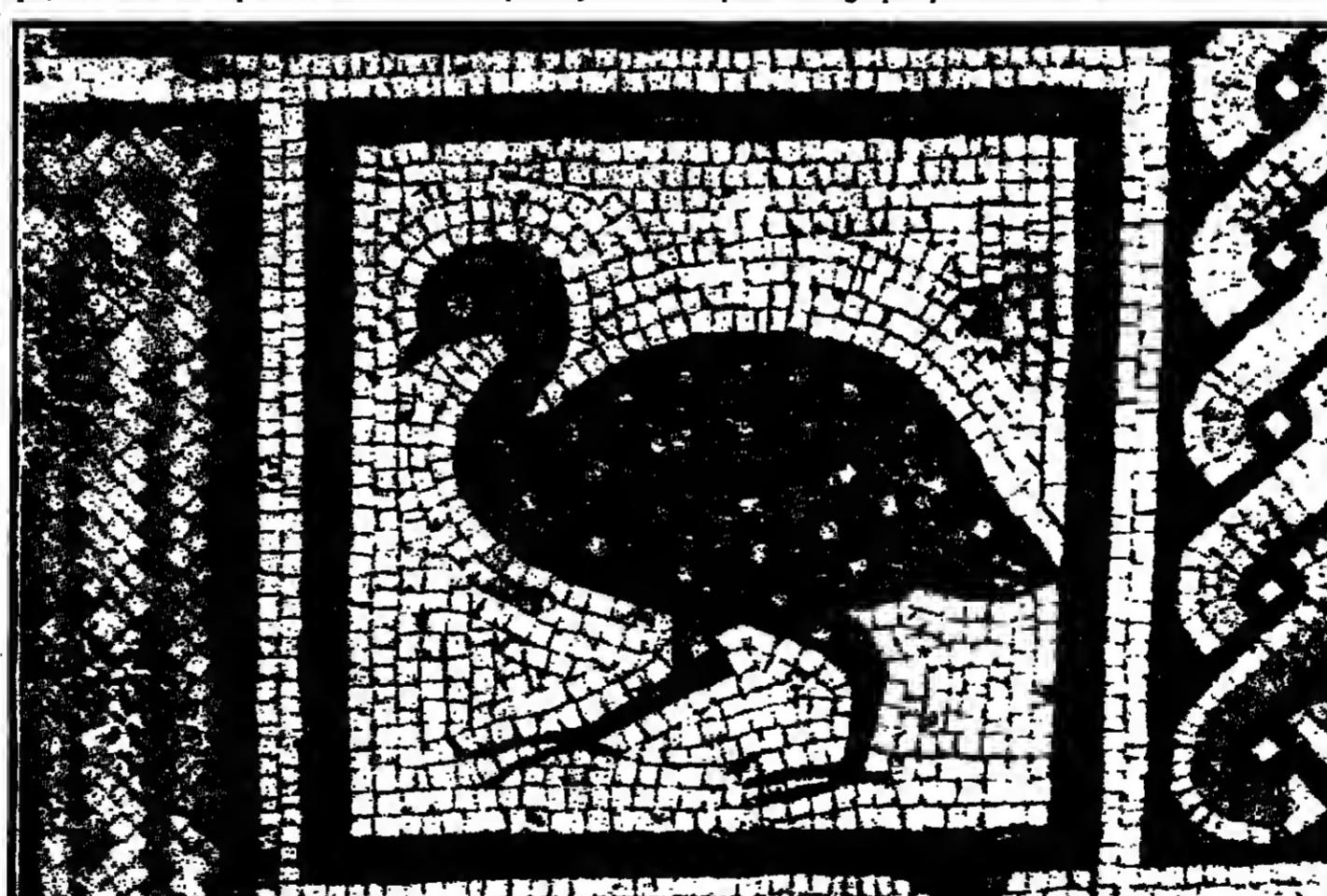
8:30 Growing Pains

9:10 Magnum

10:20 Falcon Crest



The city of Sebastiya, a mosaic found at the church of St. Stephen in Umm Er-Rasas, 785 A.D.



A middle of the sixth century A.D. mosaic found in the Chapel of Priest John in Khirbet Al Mukhayyat.



A mosaic from the 1st half of the 6th century at Ayoun Musa.



A fisherman of the middle sixth century found at the Sts. Lot and Procopius church in Khirbet Al Mukhayyat.

Graf to meet twice Australian Open winner in women's final

Cash cashes in on Lendl at home

MELBOURNE (R) — Wimbledon champion Pat Cash, the man they said could play only on grass, took great pleasure in proving his critics wrong Friday.

His five-set defeat of world number one Ivan Lendl in the semifinals of the Australian Open championships proved beyond doubt that the 22-year-old, ranked seventh in the world, has the talent to become one of the top players, whatever the surface.

In Sunday's final Cash now plays Sweden's Mats Wilander who beat compatriot Stefan Edberg in five sets, 6-0, 6-7, 6-3, 3-6, 6-1 in the other semifinal.

Lendl is rated the best hard-court player in the world. The Czechoslovak has won the last three U.S. Open and before this defeat had strung together 31 successive victories on hardcourt.

But Cash, cheered on by a fanatical home crowd, ultimately outplayed Lendl and won 6-4, 2-6, 6-2, 4-6, 6-2 by adapting the skills that had won him the Wimbledon title to the artificial rebound ace surface of the National Tennis Centre.

"All these people keep telling me I can't play on hard courts. I wonder what they're feeling now," Cash said afterwards.

Lendl, devastated at the destruction of his Grand Slam dreams, agreed that Cash was developing into an all-rounder.

"If he can become consistent then he will be tough to beat on any surface but only time will tell," said Lendl, beaten by Cash in the Wimbledon final and in last year's Australian Open semifinals.

This year's semifinal had little pattern in the first four sets as first Cash, then Lendl, gained the upper hand, due mainly to the other's shortcomings.

But the fifth set was a classic.



Cash... on track

he was able to beat defending champion Edberg with plenty to spare.

Edberg played so badly in the first set that it was a surprise to see



Graf... in quest for glory

Lendl, given a code violation for racket abuse after serving a double fault in the third set, had four break points in the first game of the fifth but wasted them all as Cash set up camp at the net.

Edberg's 11th foot fault of the match allowed Wilander to break for 2-0 in the final set and run away with the match as Edberg untypically began to lose his cool.

Lendl spoke with determination of his Grand Slam ambitions of the future after his open semifinal defeat by Cash Friday.

His 1988 dream may have been ruined, but the world number one was not to be distracted from his ultimate goal in tennis.

"You always eye the Grand Slam at the beginning of the year. It's your ultimate goal," he said after his three hours and 55 minutes struggle with Australian Cash ended in defeat.

"It was my goal last year. It was my goal this year. And it will be my goal 10 years from now. You have to give yourself the best chance you can. I felt I did that this year."

It's disappointing and frustrating to know you've put in all the work and failed. But I have had a lot of disappointments in the past and overcome them. I am sure I can do so again."

Women's circuit

Chris Evert, having disposed of Martina Navratilova, hopes to prove she can beat Steffi Graf for the women's singles title at the \$1.9 million Australian Open tennis tournament.

Evert gave a vintage performance Thursday in beating powerful Navratilova 6-2, 7-5 in a semi-final match. Graf, ranked No. 1 in the world and top-seeded in the first of the year's Grand Slam events, disposed of fellow West German Claudia Kohde-Kilsch 6-3, 6-2.

"Chris served well, got her first serves in, and returned well," Navratilova said of her long-time rival. "I made a whole bunch more unforced errors than her."

The loss left the Czech Navratilova with a 40-36 advantage over fellow American Evert. "I wouldn't want to touch Chris now. She's so hot I'd burn," Navratilova joked.

Evert, 33, has a 6-4 record against Graf, but the 18-year-old West German has won their last four meeting in straight sets.

"I haven't found a way to beat her in recent matches, but everyone is beatable," Evert said. "I'm not fearful if I play the way I have in my last two matches — I'm excited."

The third-seeded Evert will be seeking her 19th Grand Slam title in Saturday's final.

FC Barcelona, originally strong

favourites for the final four,

slumped to their fifth defeat, los-

ing 9-8 to Ortizel in France.

In the Women's Champions'

Cup final pool leaders Dynamo Novosibirsk (Soviet Union) lost

their first match in six with a

76-70 defeat against Sparta Prague.

This was the first win for the

Czech club who had four international

players returning after injury.

The completion of the group

matches in the three other com-

petitions decided the semifinal

lineups.

In the men's Korac Cup, Red

Star Belgrade (Yugoslavia) qual-

ified with a 103-65 win over Estu-

diantes (Spain) and now play

Real Madrid.

In the Men's Cup Winners'

Cup, Leverkusen became the first

West German club to reach the

last four by defeating Kingston

79-75 in England and now play

Badalona of Spain. In the other

match Pescara (Italy) play

Limoges (France).

In the women's Ronchetti Cup

Milan (Italy) play Leningrad

(Soviet Union), while Dynamo

Kiev (Soviet Union) have only to

beat Priolo (Italy) in their post-

poned third series match, due to

be played on January 26, to face

V.S Prague (Czechoslovakia) who

finished in a three-way tie in their

group but qualified by one point

on aggregate.

Yugoslavia advances in Euro basketball tourney

DAKAR (Agencies) — World champion Juha Kankkunen of Finland enjoyed one of his least satisfying triumphs Friday when he completed victory in the trouble-scarred Paris-Dakar Rally.

His victory was overshadowed not only by the tragic events which marred the rally and claimed six lives, but also by the disqualification of fellow-Finn Maccabi Tel Aviv.

Partizan's trio of internationals dominated the scoring with Goran Grbovic leading the way with 24 points. Zarko Paspalj scored 19 while 19-year-old Vlade Divac scored 12.

Partizan, the only unbeaten team at home, have won six games out of seven and are unbeaten in their last five since losing 93-83 in Italy against defending champions Tracer Milan on Dec. 3.

Aris Salomika moved into clear second place by beating Milan 120-95 in Greece on Thursday, led by 50 points from Europe's player of the year Nick Galis.

Milan, who also lost last week to third ahead of Macabi.

At the end of the 14-game series the top four from the pool of eight qualify for semifinals to be held in Ghent, Belgium on Jan. 5 with the final two days virtually assured of winning.

Vatanen disqualified

Vatanen, the defending champion and, at that time, the leader, was disqualified Monday having arrived late for the start after his Peugeot 405 was stolen from its overnight parking spot in the Malian capital of Bamako.

The car was recovered and Vatanen, more than two hours behind Kankkunen after losing a race lead of more than an hour, initially allowed to rejoin the 13,000-km marathon pending an appeal.

But the organisers finally im-

posed a ban on Thursday, preventing him from travelling with the rest of the convoy to the overnight stopping-point of Richard Toll on the Senegal-Mauritania border.

C'est la vie

Vatanen, reported by French radio to have walked away with tears in his eyes, said: "That's life."

Despite the message to Mege, the Paris-based International Motor Sport Federation (FISA), FIA's sports arm, issued a statement saying the FIA international appeal tribunal would be convened as soon as possible to judge the Peugeot affair.

Villain detained

The Paris organisers said a Frenchman suspected of stealing Vatanen's car had been detained by Mali police, though his identity had not been disclosed.

Peugeot received a ransom demand of 500,000 francs (\$90,000) on the day of the theft but it was not paid.

FISA said a working group

would examine reports of stealing

Vatanen's car had been detained by Mali police, though his identity had not been disclosed.

Other victims of the 10th Paris-Dakar, that left the Paris suburbs of Versailles Jan. 1, include a 10-year-old girl struck and killed by a competing car in Mali, a mechanic who was run over while sleeping in a rally bivouac, Dutch co-pilot Kees van Looyen, French co-pilot Patrice Canda and French motorcyclist Jean-Claude Huger.

Lefts, rights and fakes from fight week

Let's not fight. I gotta a fight tomorrow night.

Put two men in a ring for a heavyweight championship fight and anything can happen.

Tyson grew up believing that.

He still does, with one exception: That if Mike Tyson is one of those men, Mike Tyson is going to win.

"I believe I am a good fighter and no one in the world can beat me," the youngest man ever to hold the heavyweight boxing championship said.

Tyson, 32-0 with 28 knockouts, will get a chance to back up those words Friday night when he puts his undisputed heavyweight championship on the line in a 12-round fight against former champion Larry Holmes.

"People have different opinions, but I deal with fact," the 21-year-old Tyson said. "My stats are beating everyone in the top 10."

Holmes is not in the top 10. The 38-year-old Holmes is coming out of retirement in an attempt to

become the oldest man ever to win the heavyweight title — surpassing Jersey Joe Walcott, who won the title at 37 years.

Holmes, 48-2 with 34 knockouts, hasn't fought in the 21 months since losing a second controversial decision to Michael Spinks in an International Boxing Federation (IBF) title rematch.

Holmes got this shot at the title under a World Boxing Council (WBC) rule that allows "outstanding former champions" to seek a title fight, provided they can pass a stringent physical.

"They say my old legs will fade, but I'll beat Mike Tyson's butt before my old legs fade," Holmes said after arriving here Wednesday. "It's a 12-round fight. I can fight a good 10 rounds and I can hold for two. The question is, can I get it?"

The "it" is a decision. Holmes has contended the judges robbed him of the title he held for seven years in the first loss to Spinks, then again when they wouldn't give it back in the second fight.

Flyer lands in Australia with new record

DARWIN, Australia (AP) — Microlight pilot Brian Milton made aviation history Thursday on his arrival in Australia by flying 17,700 kilometres from Britain in 36 flying days.

It followed a journey that was slowed by unfavourable headwinds, being blown upside down on landing in Greece, an emergency landing in Jordan, ditching on Christmas day in the Gulf and an unscheduled landing in Malaysia.

Milton left Troughton Island in the Timor Sea earlier in the day to complete the second last leg of his journey without mishap. He

left Britain on Dec. 2. In Greece, strong winds flipped the tiny aircraft and he crashed on an island, he ditched in the Gulf on Dec. 25 because of a fuel blockade and made another forced landing in a Malaysian rice paddy due to loose wire shorting the engine.

Milton said he would leave Darwin early Friday and fly to Sydney in time for next Tuesday's celebrations marking 200 years of European settlement.

The distance by air is 3,170 kilometres. The plane, which carries only nine hours' worth of fuel, has a top speed of 153 kph.

REQUIRED

Interior Designer with very good project experience to work part-time or project-by-project basis. Good perspective drawing capability a must.

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Location: 5th Circle.

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-2 bedrooms apartment in "ALRIEAT" compound. The compound consists of: fitness center, swimming pool sauna, squash court in addition to the residential part.

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Deluxe furnished apartment, 1 bedroom, 1 living/dining room, kitchen and bath, garden, separate entrance, separate telephone and central heating. Located in a very quiet area behind Muhtaseb Supermarket, 200 m. from Mecca St., 300 m. from Chinese restaurant. Rent includes electricity, central heating, water consumption and internal telephone calls.

For more information, please call: 81327, Amman, from 6-8 p.m. daily.

CAR FOR SALE

1984 Mercedes 230 E, fully loaded, A/C, yellow plates. Best offer.

Call: 823560, after 7:00 p.m.

FOR RENT

Furnished or Unfurnished Villa Three-storey villa built according to modern American style at a beautiful location in Jabal Amman. Consists of 4 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms, 2 kitchens, with central heating, telephone, garden and 2 garages.

Location: opposite the office of the French commercial attache, near Khalidi Hospital.

Tel: 653335, Amman.

Economy

JORDAN TIMES, SATURDAY JANUARY 23, 1988 7

Jordan earns JD 105.3m from exports to Iraq

BAGHDAD (J.T.) — The Iraqi trade ministry announced Friday that Jordan's exports to Iraq in the past year amounted to JD 105.3 million worth of products against a total of \$20.5 million worth of Iraqi products exported to Jordan.

Jordan and Iraq recently agreed to increase the overall volume of trade between them to \$900 million in 1988 and to take measures to remove obstacles hindering the smooth flow of national products from the two countries in both directions.

The agreement came during meetings of the joint Jordanian-Iraqi Higher Committee which met in Amman in December.

Jordan exports to Iraq feed concentrates, table eggs, pharmaceutical products, chemical detergents, woolen and cotton cloth, ball point pens and plastic products.

During this year, according to economic sources in Amman, Jordan will also export to Iraq agricultural plastic covers and greenhouses, electrical appliances, sanitary equipment, metal pipes, heaters, cigarettes, pesticides, rock wool, alcoholic drinks and insulation material.

Exports to Arab Common Market amount to JD 7.4m

According to a statistical bulletin issued by the Central Bank of Jordan, Jordan's total exports to countries of the Arab Common Market amounted to JD 7,401 million in the first eight months of last year.

The bulletin said that the figure represents an increase of JD 3.25 million over Jordan's total exports to these countries in the same period of 1986.

It said that the Jordanian exports included among other things tobacco, petrochemical products, transport equipment, and other various manufactured products.

Ministry lowers olive oil price

AMMAN (J.T.) — Olive oil produced in Jordan's East and West Banks will be sold at JD 24 for every 18-kilogramme container, in accordance with instructions issued by the Ministry of Supply.

Minister of Supply Hamdi Al Tabbaa said that the new rate is JD 2 less than the previous rate for the same amount.

The minister said that unlimited amounts of locally produced oil can be bought from the ministry warehouses and from the Civil Service Consumer Corporation.

Iran-Iraq war boosts business at Dubai's port

DUBAI (R) — Freight traffic at Dubai's Port Rashid rose by almost 40 per cent last year, turning it into one of the world's 30 busiest ports, largely as a result of the Iran-Iraq shipping war, officials said Thursday.

Most of the increase came from trans-shipment business to ports in Saudi Arabia and Kuwait.

Cargo handled at Port Rashid rose from 3,147 million tonnes in 1986 to 4,232 million tonnes last year, the officials said. At least two-thirds of the goods brought

in by large container vessels and freighters were reexported in smaller ships.

The figures excluded oil traffic which fell from 1,358 to 1,075 million tonnes and also did not include large amounts of goods leaving Port Rashid by wooden dhow for Iran.

"Iran can't take large cargo-carrying vessels because its ports have been badly bombed and their equipment damaged," one official said.

FORECAST FOR SATURDAY, JANUARY 23, 1988

YOUR DAILY HOROSCOPE

From the Carol Righter Institute

GENERAL TENDENCIES: Despite some confusion in the early part of the day, you will have an excellent opportunity to get the backing you need from some influential persons. Be sure to avoid any arguments this evening.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) Try to put more excitement into your daily duties, and you'll enjoy them more. You and your mate must try to get out of that rut.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) Try to impress the one you love by showing that you are modest and exchanging some exciting erotic rewards; you may regret later.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) Make arrangements to get together with a recent acquaintance for some recreation today. If you must do some marketing, do it early.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to Jul. 21) Discuss with an expert how you can add to your present abundance, and get good advice. Steer clear of a greedy associate.

LEO (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21) Plan a trip with a friend to gather some important information you need. Take it easy and get plenty of rest tonight after such a busy day.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) You may want to invest in some modern

mechanisms to make your work more efficient and profitable, but get the advice of an expert.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) Conclude a clever acquaintance who can show you how to capitalize on your finest talent. Get out of that rut you've been in for so long.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) Get your home in order so that you can entertain guests with confidence this evening. If you go out,

drive very carefully.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) A very new and unusual form of recreation will please you very much if you keep an open mind. Take time to make a short trip.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) You may have to spend a bit more money than you had planned to please your family, but, in the long run it will be well worth the cost.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) Make it a point to see someone you have recently met, and to whom you have taken a fancy. This should be a memorable evening.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) You have some fine ideas which seem to be promising, but you must put these into motion if you are going to profit at all by them.

THE Daily Crossword by Frank R. Jackson

Yesterday's Puzzle Solved:

SPAS	APASM	TEAR
WARP	ARTINE	USA
ALICE	YANNI	SIAM
BLAZING	SHEN	ALA
ABIG	ANI	
SWILL	MAGICK	
EASED	CANET	NDI
MILL	CAYER	CHE
CAVER	LOGIC	DEETE
APT	TRIP	
ABEF	NETDSES	
SONG	ROUTS	ROMA
TODA	TOITO	ADIT
AMOS	STEAD	LATE

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Jordan obtains Swedish loan, Italian grant

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Swedish bank Gotobanken will administer the spending of a Swedish loan amounting to JD 2.3 million on consultancy services for the Telecommunications Corporation (TCC), according to an agreement signed by the two sides here Thursday.

Under the agreement, Gotobanken will also supervise the implementation of some TCC projects which will be carried out from now and until 1992 with the help of the Swedish interest-free loan.

The agreement was signed by Transport and Telecommunications Minister Khaled Al Haj Hassan and Gotobanken's board chairman Josta Lundin.

The minister expressed Jordan's appreciation to the Swedish government for granting the loan to Jordan to help it carry out projects and said the loan reflects the strong ties between the two countries.

The loan, the minister said, will enable the TCC to provide better services to the public.

The minister later signed an agreement providing for Consultel of Rome, an Italian consultancy firm, to conduct consultancy services, market research study and engineering work related to the expansion of Jordan's telephone networks in cooperation with the TCC.

Consultel of Rome will help establish data network for domestic and international telecommunication services in the Kingdom and will also supervise the installation and commissioning of the project after providing the equipment to be employed in the TCC director general.

Italian embassy sources told the Jordan Times that 18 months are needed for the completion of the consultancy and survey work while 12 more months will be required for commissioning.

Following the completion of the consultancy work, the sources said, Consultel and the TCC will conduct a market research and select Italian companies which would carry out the project.

Arab Potash approves budget

AMMAN (J.T.) — The board of directors of the Arab Potash Company (APC) has endorsed a fiscal budget for 1988 and approved the final accounts statement for the company's operations in the past year.

The APC's board comprises 15 members, eight of whom are appointed by the government which owns 53 per cent of the total company's shares, and the rest represent other shareholders from various Arab countries and institutions.

APC earlier this month announced that it produced 1,203 million tonnes of potash from the Dead Sea in the past year, thus exceeding the 1.2 million tonne mark fixed by the company's management at the outset of 1987.

APC Director General Ali Nsour announced that all the company's production between 1983 and 1987 has been marketed abroad.

The pan-Arab company, which incurred losses in the past, recently embarked on an investment programme aimed at increasing output and promoting marketing.

Last month, APC announced that it would export 200,000 tonnes of potash to China during the first six months of 1988. The consignment would be sold at a price 15 per cent higher than that paid for shipments made in the past year, according to APC sources.

China imported a total of 300,000 tonnes of Jordanian potash in 1987, the sources said.

Private analysis upgrades rating of Jordanian bank

NICOSIA (AP) — A private banking analysis service on Friday reported an upward trend in ratings for banks in Jordan, Saudi Arabia and Kuwait, and gave six Middle East Arab banks, including Arab Bank Ltd. of Jordan, its highest ratings.

The Cyprus-based Capital Intelligence, which specializes in Middle East banks, said in a statement telexed to the Associated Press in Nicosia that nearly all the banks in oil-rich Kuwait have been upgraded.

This is due to the central bank's comprehensive settlement programme which has buttressed all the aspects of the bank's financial conditions, (and) deposits have been formally guaranteed by the state," it said.

Capital Intelligence said in Saudi Arabia "the banking market has passed its nadir and the local business environment is less

hostile, resulting in upratings for most banks."

The private banking analysis service also reported an upward grading in Bahrain.

In the United Arab Emirates (UAE), ratings of recently merged banks in Abu Dhabi and Dubai have improved as a result of their increased capital and funding injections, while the banks are successfully developing new business, said the service.

It gave six Arab banks its highest ratings of AA. They are:

— Gulf International Bank in Bahrain

— The National Bank of Bahrain BSC

— Arab Bank Ltd. in Jordan

— National Bank of Kuwait

— Saudi Arabia's Islamic Development Bank

— National Bank of Dubai Ltd. in the UAE.

Riyadh, Taipei initial accord

RIYADH (AP) — Saudi Arabia and Taiwan initiated trade and technology agreement allowing Taiwan to import more Saudi petrochemicals.

Taiwan will send more nurses and medical technicians to Saudi Arabia, an announcement said.

Saudi Finance and Economy Minister Mohammad Abal Khail said Taiwan had pledged to encourage more imports of Saudi petrochemicals, especially urea fertilizer and ammonia. Other officials said negotiations also were under way for imports of Saudi-made styrene monomer, an

element of plastic.

Taiwan also will increase its technological and educational work in Saudi Arabia, especially in agriculture in which it already provides advisers and researchers, Abal Khail said.

Taiwanese advisers are looking into the establishment of an agricultural technical school in Saudi Arabia.

Long-standing economic ties bind Taiwan and Saudi Arabia, which has no diplomatic relations with communist China or the Soviet Union.

Radi said the reduced generating capacity would help Egypt save water from the dam. He said the effects on the public would be slight because Aswan supplied only 22 per cent of his country's power needs.

Egyptian experts have said that if the current drought in the Nile's catchment areas continues beyond August next year, the effect on irrigation will be serious.

He said the problem was likely to worsen by the end of the dry

IMF to modify financing deals

SINGAPORE (R) — The International Monetary Fund (IMF) will liberalise the terms of its loans to help debt-ridden developing countries, Managing Director Michel Camdessus said Friday.

The IMF had "embarked on a major initiative to adopt new financing mechanisms" that took into account difficulties faced by the fund's 62 poorest countries, Camdessus told a news conference.

People buy Third World loans

mainly to swap them back to the debtor country in exchange for low cost financing in the debtor's own currency.

It is an attractive option for companies that want to build new plants, or expand existing operations in the Third World. The debtor, meanwhile, ends up with a little less foreign currency debt.

"We've seen a big increase in the number of LDC (less developed country) loans sold for cash in the past few months," said Keith Fogarty, head of the loan-trading group at investment bankers Shearson Lehman Brothers International.

Banks are selling loans they have made to Brazil — the Third World's biggest debtor — at about 45 cents for each dollar originally lent. Less than a year ago, in May, shortly after Brazil froze payments to its bank creditors, the price had been 62 to 65 cents on the dollar, down from 58 to 60 cents.

"Now, since the new year, we've seen more and more banks making loss provisions. That should prompt banks to start lending again and depress prices," Harvey said.

For those regional U.S. banks, led by the Bank of Boston, which have started to write off Third World debt, basically accounting for them as being valueless, any loan sales could actually produce a profit.

That could speed up selling even more.

The volume of loans sold is not high but bankers say it does not take a very heavy volume to move prices in the thinly traded market. Only about one per cent of the \$1.00 billion owed by the Third World has changed hands in the latest selling spree, they said.

Egypt to cut power from dam

KHARTOUM (R) — Egypt will cut electrical power from the drought-hit Aswan High Dam, hitting villagers along the Nile but leaving Cairo and other major industrial centres unaffected.

Essam Radi, minister of public works and water resources, told Reuters hydro-electric power generated at Aswan would be reduced 10 per cent from March but only rural areas would be affected.

Radi and irrigation ministers

from Sudan, Uganda and Zaire agreed on Thursday to cooperate in using and developing water resources in the Nile basin.

If the level falls to 147 metres, the electrical turbines should be shut down.

Radi said the reduced generating capacity would help Egypt save water from the dam. He said the effects on the public would be slight because Aswan supplied only 22 per cent of his country's power needs.

Egyptian experts have said that if the current drought in the Nile's catchment areas continues beyond August next year, the effect on irrigation will be serious.

France to lend Syria \$36m

DAMASCUS (R) — France is marking improved relations with Syria with 200 million franc (\$35.7 million) loan for development projects.

French embassy officials told Reuters the low-interest loan was agreed during a visit here by Foreign Minister Jean-Bernard Raimond in October. They said it reflected warmer relations.

Raimond's trip ended a 10-month suspension of high-level contacts between Syria and members of the European Community (EC), after Britain accused

of involvement in a plot to bomb an Israeli airliner on a flight from London.

The EC also froze economic aid. But the embassy officials said individual countries were free to give assistance.

Reagan lowers bid for contra aid funding after peace talks

WASHINGTON (R) — In an apparent bid to win over a reluctant Congress, President Reagan is to seek the least possible military aid for contra rebels fighting the Nicaraguan Sandinista government, the White House says.

The Sandinistas have lifted a state of emergency, promised an amnesty for an estimated 3,000 political prisoners and despatched senior officials to Costa Rica for direct talks with the contras. "We will be tailoring our request to maintain the contras as a viable force with as much humanitarian aid as possible and as little lethal aid as possible," spokesman Marvin Fitzwater told reporters Thursday.

Reagan, who was due to make another speech on the issue, is expected to send a request for new contra aid to Congress next week amid diplomatic moves to bring peace to Central America.

Reagan, suspicious of the real

intentions of Managua's Sandinista government, has launched an intense campaign for congressional approval of the aid.

He argues that only a contra force in the field will oblige Nicaragua to make good on the promises it made in signing the Guatemala peace accord last August, which calls for ceasefire talks, amnesties for political prisoners and a range of democratic reform.

But Reagan has not yet said how much money he will ask for aid to the contras, and Fitzwater gave mixed signals.

First, Fitzwater told a group of reporters the figure would be less than \$50 million to cover about

five months.

Later, however, he said at his daily press briefing that no final figure had been set. Numbers higher and lower than \$50 million were under discussion, Fitzwater said.

One major factor is that if Reagan asked for a relatively small sum and the Democratic-led Congress approved it in votes scheduled for Feb. 2-3, he will be able to ask for more during the current financial year ending in September.

If he loses the votes, that will be the end of the matter.

The Reagan administration has also said Sandinista actions following a Central American summit in Costa Rica last weekend at which Managua made significant concessions on the peace process, will be an important factor.

Meanwhile forty U.S. mayors, all Democrats, called Thursday for an end to American aid to

Nicaragua's contra rebels and support for a peace plan signed last August by presidents of five Central American countries.

"We believe the Congress should fund the cities, not the contras," Berkeley, California Mayor Lori Hancock told reporters in releasing the national mayors' initiative for peace in Central America at the annual meeting in Washington of the U.S. Conference of Mayors.

More than 300 mayors were asked to sign the initiative. Hancock said the 40 who signed represented a broad cross-section of every type of urban area and reflected what she said was 70 per cent opposition to contra aid among the American public.

Hancock said delegation of the signatures would meet House of Representatives Speaker Jim Wright to explain their stand and hoped to meet President Reagan during their two-day conference.

If he loses the votes, that will be the end of the matter.

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Group of six urges U.N. to monitor nuclear test ban

STOCKHOLM (R) — Leaders of a six-nation disarmament initiative have called on the superpowers to stop nuclear testing and proposed that the United Nations should monitor a test ban.

The leaders from Sweden, India, Argentina, Greece, Mexico and Tanzania made the proposal Thursday after signing a declaration calling on the U.S. and the Soviet Union to destroy half their strategic nuclear arsenals.

"The United Nations as a body could guarantee a fair verification system," said Swedish Prime Minister Ingvar Carlsson, host of the two-day meeting of the six.

The declaration also called for a ban on anti-satellite weapons, such as those being developed in the U.S. "Star Wars" project, known as the Strategic Defence Initiative (SDI).

"The nuclear arms race must be halted — Now. Nuclear testing must stop — Now. Strategic arms must be reduced — Now. An arms race in space must be prevented — Now," Carlsson said.

The other five leaders are Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi, Greek Prime Minister Andreas

Papandreaou, Tanzanian Ex-President Julius Nyerere, Argentine Foreign Minister Dante Caputo and Mexican President Miguel de la Madrid.

The six said they would write to world leaders requesting a special U.N. session this summer to discuss the test ban.

A group of experts from the six countries will also soon convene in Sweden to take stock of efforts to develop the most efficient way of verifying a test ban, Carlsson said.

The six were due to discuss their ideas with other international peace activists in Stockholm for the occasion, including former Canadian Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau and Georgy Arbatov, head of the Soviet U.S.-Canada Institute.

The meeting saw the tightest security in Stockholm since the funeral in February 1986 of Swedish Prime Minister Olof Palme shot on a Stockholm street. His killer was never found.

During their summit, the six leaders also paid tribute to Palme in a wreath-laying ceremony at his grave where his widow, Lisbeth Palme, read their joint declaration.

COLUMNS 7 & 8

Felix the cat sent home

LONDON (R) — Felix the cat sniffed at champagne and caviar when given a VIP send-off at London airport. The cat was returning home to California after recuperating from almost a month circling the globe "lost" in the cargo hold of a Pan Am airliner. The two-year-old cat was found on New Year's Day after logging some 250,000 kilometres on 64 flights in the cargo hold. It is believed to have survived the 29-day ordeal living only on condensed water after escaping from its basket on a flight from Frankfurt to Los Angeles. Since its rescue it has spent the last few weeks recovering in a London quarantine centre. Felix took the flight home to Los Angeles firmly secured in a pet basket in the first-class compartment of a Jumbo Jet after being offered caviar and champagne and having her picture taken by scores of press photographers.

Garbage barge sinks in river

NEW YORK (R) — A garbage barge has sunk in New York's East River, sending tonnes of rubbish floating downstream and forcing officials to warn planes they could be endangered by seagulls drawn to the refuse. A Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) spokesman said the aircraft warning was withdrawn when only hundreds instead of the expected concentration of thousands of seagulls showed up. New York's main domestic airport, Laguardia, is near the river and gulls often pose a danger to aircraft. Officials said the barge, carrying 700 tonnes of garbage, was one of four being towed in the river in heavy fog. It collided with another barge and sank. Most of its cargo of garbage was contained but thousands of pounds escaped down the river. A city Sanitation Department spokesman said there were no injuries in the collision and no danger of pollution. The barge was carrying ordinary household garbage.

Man sprays mace on subway passengers

NEW YORK (R) — An unidentified man has sprayed a toxic substance believed to be mace in the faces of at least 20 commuters at a busy underground railway station, temporarily blinding several of them. The incident happened at the busy Lexington Avenue and 59th Street station underneath the posh Bloomingdale's department store during the evening rush hour, police said. Between 20 and 25 people were injured, police said, but officers did not know what the substance was, although it appeared to be a mace-like compound. The unidentified assailant has not been apprehended, officers said. Photographers trying to take pictures were pushed away by police because the victim's eyes hurt too much by the flash of the cameras. The subway station, always busy at rush hour, was jammed with police, emergency personnel, victims and passengers arriving at the station to catch connecting trains.

Man seized for charging at Fergie

NEW YORK (R) — A man brandishing a flag of the Irish Republican Army (IRA) was arrested by federal agents after he charged at the Duchess of York as she left a New York hotel, police have said. The duchess, who was in the city for a gala performance of Phantom of the Opera at a Broadway theatre, was unharmed in the incident, a New York police spokesman said. The arrested man, named as Michael Shanley, 22, of New York, was charged with attempted assault of the duchess, the former Sarah Ferguson, and of federal officers, the spokesman said. He said Shanley was subdued by federal agent Anthony Cardone before he was able to attack the duchess. The spokesman said the incident occurred at about 11 p.m. New York time (0400 GMT) as the duchess was leaving the Waldorf Astoria Hotel. Earlier, a small crowd of IRA supporters demonstrated across the street from a Broadway theatre where the duchess was to attend the performance. They filed past the theatre and left the scene before she arrived.

McCartney no-show sours rock dinner

NEW YORK (R) — The Rock and Roll Hall of Fame has gained five new members in a ceremony soured by Paul McCartney snubbing other former Beatles. McCartney was not the only no-show: The Rolling Stones' Keith Richards stayed away and Diana Ross shunned her ex-partner in the Supremes. The Beatles, Bob Dylan, the Beach Boys, the Supremes and the Drifters were inducted into the Hall of Fame at a black-tie dinner to honour the roots of rock 'n' roll. But the evening was notable more for who was out there than the dozens of rock music stars like Bruce Springsteen, Billy Joel, Jeff Beck, Little Richard and Joan Baez who were present. McCartney cited long-standing business differences for his refusal to attend what would have been a reunion of the surviving Beatles. "I was keen to go and pick up my award, but after 20 years the Beatles still have some business differences which I had hoped would have been settled by now," the British musician said in a statement. "Unfortunately they haven't been, so I would feel like a complete hypocrite waving and smiling with them at a fake reunion." Ringo Starr, George Harrison and John Lennon's widow Yoko Ono were on hand at the Waldorf Astoria to receive the Beatles' honour from Rolling Stones singer Mick Jagger.

Farmer harvests diamonds

FREETOWN, Sierra Leone (AP) — A farmer planting potatoes in the eastern Kono district, dug up one of the largest diamonds ever found in this mineral-rich country, the government Gold and Diamond Office has reported. The farmer, who was not identified, found the 307-carat gem last Friday while digging up what he thought was a stone in his potato patch. The farmer and a friend broke the stone into three pieces following an argument over whether it was really a diamond or not. Officials of the National Diamond Mining Corporation (NDMC) confirmed the stone was a diamond. The pieces were deposited in the vault of the Central Bank in the capital, Freetown, while government officials tried to sort out conflicting ownership claims. The NDMC said the stone belonged to them since it was found on their leased property. The farmer and a third party, a group calling itself "supporters" of the farmer, both claimed they were the rightful owners. Diamond valuers from the government Gold and Diamond Office had not put a monetary value on the three pieces. The largest diamond ever produced in the country was the 969-carat Star of Sierra Leone, found in 1971.

Sean Penn hits suspected prowler

LOS ANGELES (R) — Actor Sean Penn, who spent 33 days in jail after biting a film extra, struck a suspected prowler with a bottle of salad dressing at the home he shares with singer Madonna, police have said. The incident occurred when Penn and Madonna, returning from a shopping trip, spotted five people in the area of their estate in the posh beach colony of Malibu, police spokesman Ricard Dinsmoor said. Penn, 26, whose films include Bad Boys and Fast Times at Ridgemont High, said one of the suspected prowlers, Richard Barcelo, tried to punch him, Dinsmoor reported. "Penn, in an attempt to defend himself, grabbed the handiest item, a bottle of salad dressing, and struck Barcelo with it," Dinsmoor said. "Barcelo, who was cut near one of his ears, surrendered and waited quietly for police to arrive." Penn, leader of the so-called Hollywood brat pack of young stars, called police on his car telephone, Dinsmoor said. Mail belonging to the Penns was found in Barcelo's car, he said. Barcelo, 20, and two 17-year-olds were held on suspicion of prowling and trespassing after Penn placed them under citizen's arrest, Dinsmoor said. Two other young people were released. People can commit citizen's arrests when police do not see a crime being committed.

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN AND OMAR SHARIF

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WEEKLY BRIDGE QUIZ

Q.1—Both vulnerable, as South you hold:
♦A54 ♠10762 ♣9852 ♦A3
The bidding has proceeded:
North East South West
1 NT Pass ?
What action do you take?

Q.2—Neither vulnerable, as South you hold:
♦C854 ♠AK862 ♣KQ103
The bidding has proceeded:
South West North East
1 NT Pass ?
What action do you take?

Q.3—Both vulnerable, as South you hold:
♦A7632 ♠984 ♠8 ♦KJ65
The bidding has proceeded:
North East South West
1 C Pass 1 NT Pass
2 NT Pass ?
What action do you take?

Q.4—As South, vulnerable, you

hold:
♦A54 ♠10762 ♣9852 ♦A3
The bidding has proceeded:
North East South West
1 NT Pass ?
What action do you take?

Q.5—Both vulnerable, as South you hold:
♦AQJ92 ♠982 ♣QAJ9 ♦55
The bidding has proceeded:
North East South West
1 ♠ Pass 1 ♠ Pass
2 ♠ Pass 2 ♠ Pass
2 ♠ Pass ?
What do you bid now?

Q.6—Both vulnerable, as South you hold:
♦AK573 ♠C93 ♣QK76 ♦K63
The bidding has proceeded:
North East South West
1 ♠ Pass 1 ♠ Pass
2 ♠ Pass 2 ♠ Pass
2 ♠ Pass ?
What do you bid now?

Q.7—Both vulnerable, as South you hold:
♦AK573 ♠C93 ♣QJ96 ♦AQS
The bidding has proceeded:
South West North East
1 ♠ Pass 2 NT Pass
2 NT Pass ?
What do you bid now?

Q.8—As South, vulnerable, you

Terrorist attacks declined in 1986

WASHINGTON (R) — International terrorist activity around the world declined slightly in 1986 but attacks directed against the United States increased, a State Department report has said.

The report, entitled Patterns of Global Terrorism: 1986, said there were 774 terrorist attacks from Portugal almost 13 years ago.

"We had been expecting we would not get the same treatment as Torrejon but even so there is some disappointment," the city council spokesman said, adding this was the third time the council had voted for the removal of the base since it was set up in the mid-1950s.

Under the current defence agreement, up to 1,400 U.S. troops can be stationed at Saragossa.

Italy would consider accepting the 72 American F-16 fighter-bombers after they are withdrawn from Spain, in order to avoid them being pulled out of Europe altogether, Italian sources said Thursday.

The decision on the future of the nuclear-capable aircraft would rest with NATO but the government "in principle is not against discussing their transfer to Italy," a senior government source said.

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